

UNCLASSIFIED 8/25/83
Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 EUDN03 05074 2514282
ACTION: ASA-00

6035

FAMILY AND OTHER PROMINENT FIGURES WITH A KIDNAPING COMMENTARY ON WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS A NATIONAL SCANDAL.
SHLAUDERMAN

INFO OCT-00 COMY-01 ASD-00 INR-10 SC-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
H-01 NSCE-00 NCAE-00 SSO-00 SY-00 HA-00 L-00
PM-00 PA-00 MGT-00 CHS-01 INRE-00 SYF-00 USIE-00
SP-02 SHP-01 PRS-01 /073 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8354
INFO URGINSO QUARRY HTS PN
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 05074

CINCSO FOR INTAFF, CINCLANT ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, AF
SUBJ: KELLY REAPPEARS ALIVE

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5647

1. SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT AUGUST 25, GUILLERMO PATRICIO KELLY WALKED INTO A GAS STATION ON THE PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY 50 KILOMETERS NORTH OF BUENOS AIRES, 16 HOURS AFTER HIS KIDNAPPING ELECTRIFIED THE CAPITAL. POLICE WERE IMMEDIATELY INFORMED AND AFTER INITIAL INTERROGATIONS ON THE SCENE, HE WAS BROUGHT BACK TO BUENOS AIRES WHERE HE MADE A DEPOSITION TO A LOCAL JUDGE ASSIGNED THE CASE. SHORTLY AFTER KELLY WAS SEIZED BY ARMED MEN ON A BUSY STREET CORNER NEAR HIS HOME YESTERDAY MORNING.
2. ENCOUNTERING A MOB OF REPORTERS CONGREGATED OUTSIDE THE POLICE STATION SHORTLY AFTER EIGHT THIS MORNING, FOLLOWING HIS THREE-HOUR MEETING WITH JUDGE LUCIO SONOZA, KELLY APPEARED TIRED. FACIAL BRUISES AND CUTS WERE EVIDENT, BUT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND OTHERWISE APPEARED WELL.
3. KELLY TOLD THE PRESS HIS KIDNAPPERS WERE LED BY AN INDIVIDUAL "DISGUISED" AS AN ARMY OFFICER -- THROUGHOUT YESTERDAY AND LAST EVENING IT WAS REPORTED THE OPERATION WAS CONDUCTED BY A MAN IN THE UNIFORM OF AN ARMY COLONEL. HE DESCRIBED TWO OF HIS OTHER "ABDUCTORS" AS "PSYCHOPATHS" WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE KIDNAPPING FOR MONEY. HIS ONLY OTHER CHARACTERIZATION OF THE GROUP WAS THAT "THEY WERE NOT FEROCHISTS," AND THAT THEIR INTENTION WAS TO FRIGHTEN AND INTIMIDATE HIM. HE SAID HIS CAPTORS HAD MOVED HIM TO TWO DIFFERENT HOUSES IN THE NORTHERN SUBURBS BUT REFUSED TO GIVE DETAILS ABOUT HIS RELEASE OR ESCAPE -- POLICE SOURCES REPORTED EARLIER THAT HE HAD BEEN THROWN FROM A MOVING CAR -- AND HE ANGRILY REJECTED QUESTIONS SUGGESTING THE EPISODE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A SELF-KIDNAPPING. HE DEMANDED A FULL AND RAPID INVESTIGATION OF HIS EXPERIENCE BY THE ARMED FORCES AND LEFT THE IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE TO RETURN HOME FOR REST.
4. KELLY'S ABDUCTION SEEMED TO MONOPOLIZE ALL PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM THE MOMENT IT BECAME KNOWN YESTERDAY MORNING INTO THE FINAL NEWS PROGRAMS OF THE EVENING. PRESIDENT BIGNONE CONDEMNED IT IMMEDIATELY AND THE JUNTA OF SERVICE COMMANDERS TOOK IT UP AS THE FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS AT ITS PEGULAR WEEKLY MEETING WEDNESDAY, WITH AIR FORCE CINC CANCELLING A SCHEDULED TRIP TO THE INTERIOR. MUCH OF THE SATURATION COVERAGE OF THE KIDNAPING WAS DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIA. THE COUNTRY'S MOST WIDELY-VIEWED TV NEWS PROGRAM, THE PRIME-TIME "28 MILLIONS" ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PREMIER TELEVISION NETWORK, DEVOTED ITS FULL HOUR LAST NIGHT TO A "STEP-BY-STEP" RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CRIME. ROBERTO MAIDANA, A RESPECTED NEWS PROFESSIONAL WHO ANCHORS THE SHOW, INTERSPERSED INTERVIEWS WITH WITNESSES, MEMBERS OF KELLY'S

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

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